



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE FINANCE, REVENUE, AND BONDING COMMITTEE MARCH 30, 2022

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Testimony Supporting Senate Bill No. 12

AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT MATCHING FUNDS AND EXTENDING THE TIME PERIOD FOR DISTRIBUTING GRANTS FOR CERTAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT EQUIPMENT

Senator Fonfara, Representative Scanlon, Senator Martin, and Representative Cheeseman, and distinguished members of the Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on Senate Bill No. 12, An Act Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State for Capital Improvements and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act matching Funds and Extending the Time Period for Distributing Grants for Certain law Enforcement Equipment.

This bill would include \$165.0 million in new GO bond authorizations for FY 2023 in addition to the previously enacted \$1.9 billion. These authorizations would include:

1. \$75.0 million to provide the state match towards projects allowed under the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. This will serve as the initial first year match towards an estimated \$6.0 billion of Federal infrastructure funds available to the State of Connecticut. These funds will be used for a variety of purposes, including, but not limited to, water infrastructure improvements, electric vehicle charging improvements, and resilient infrastructure.
2. \$60.0 million to the Department of Corrections for improvements to the state's prisons and to address deferred maintenance projects.
3. \$15.0 million to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for infrastructure improvements at state parks. Current authorizations are inadequate to maintain current infrastructure projects.
4. \$15.0 million to the Capital Equipment Purchase Fund to help address State information technology (IT) equipment needs.

This bill also extends the Police Body Camera grant program for an additional year. Currently the program will end on June 30, 2022. The change will extend the reimbursement program through FY 2023.

By way of an update, thus far, the State Bond Commission in FY 2022 has allocated \$1.4 billion in General Obligation Bonds and \$1.4 billion in Revenue Bonds. It is expected that General Obligation Bond allocations at the end of FY 2022 will total around 2.0 billion which is equivalent to the total of FY 2022 Authorizations enacted in the 2021 session.

I respectfully request that the committee support this bill. I would like to again thank the committee for the opportunity to present this testimony, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.